

May-Schroeder Springhouse
(Spring House - Helkett)
Anderson, Grimes County, Texas

HABS NO. Tex-280

HABS
TEX.

93. AND

4-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District # 6 Tex 2

Historic American Buildings Survey
Birdsall F. Briscoe, District Officer
4301 Main Street, Houston, Texas

SPRING HOUSE - ANDERSON
Anderson, Grimes County, Texas

HABS
TEX.

Owner Mr. Collier Jr.

93- AND

Date of Erection 1831

4-

Architect John S. Black

Builder John S. Black

Present Condition Good

Number of Stories One story

Other Existing Records None

Materials of Construction Stone

Additional Data: The stone that this house was built of was quarried on the premises. The Spring house was originally known as the John Black Spring House.

John Black came to Texas in 1830 from Tennessee. In 1831 he was granted one league of land near Anderson where he built a log house and a rock spring house. (House was destroyed). Black was active in the Texas Revolution. He and his son, Monte, joined the Texas Army and it is said that they participated in the siege of Bexar on December 5 to 9, 1835.

The Spring House is of no particular architectural value. The stone work is interestingly and practically handed. Time has left the jointing deeply lined with age. The split oak shingles are gone and the roof is now corrugated iron. The former usage of the Spring House is its only historical value. So far as is known neither Stephen F. Austin nor Sam Houston stopped there for a drink. It has gathered no historic legends. It was built and used for a milk house. Creeks of milk were set on flat stone slabs on the wide floors of the spring and with the constant flow of cool water the milk was kept reasonably cool.